

PLATT & SLATER'S

**GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA**

**OVERLAND:**

DESCRIBING ALL THE MAIN ROUTES,

AND GIVING THE MEASURED DISTANCES OF

STREAMS, CAMPING PLACES, WOOD,

WATER, GRASS, &C.,

**WITH A MAP OF THE ROUTE.**

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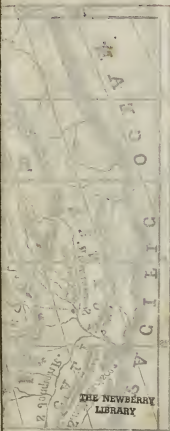
**CHICAGO:**  
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1852

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R. N. WHITE, SC. ENGLISH PRAIRIE, ILL.

ERRATA.—The following errors have been discovered in this Guide, since coming from the press.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Page 20. At Willow Creek, for "1" mile read "2½"                                    | Page 29. 23rd line, for "opening" read "crossing." | Page 40. At 15 mile House, for "1" mile read "1½" |
| 26. At West Br. Raft River, for "2" miles read "5"                                  | 37. At Tragedy Spr., for "2½" mile, read "2½"      | 50. At "a spring of water," for "2½" read "4½"    |
| Page 43. The twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth lines from the top should be transposed. |  |   |

## THE TRAVELERS' GUIDE

ACROSS THE PLAINS, UPON THE

## OVERLAND ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA

Showing Distances from Point to Point, accurately measured by Roadometer.

AND

DESCRIBING THE SPRINGS, STREAMS OF WATER, HILLS, MOUNTAINS, CAMPING-PLACES AND OTHER NOTABLE OBJECTS ALONG THE ROUTE.

## WITH AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING THE ROUTES FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS TO FORT LARAMIE; FROM FORT LEAVENWORTH TO THE BIG BLUE RIVER; THE ROUTES BY WAY OF SALT LAKE AND FT. HALL, AND A GENERAL SUMMARY OF DISTANCES.

By P. L. PLATT and N. SLATER, A. M.

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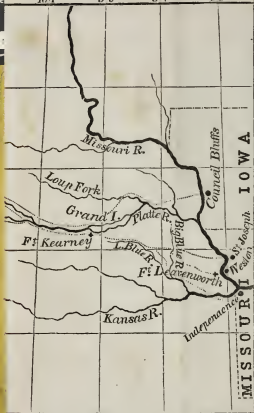
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mile House, for " $\frac{1}{2}$ " mile read " $1\frac{1}{2}$ ,"  
 spring of water," for " $2\frac{1}{2}$ " read " $4\frac{1}{2}$ "

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1852.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1852,  
P. L. PLATT and N. SLATER, in the Clerk's Office of the Distr  
Court of the United States, in and for the Northern District  
California.

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## PREFACE.

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In the following GUIDE the great object has been, accuracy of measurement from point to point, and correctness of description of objects along the route, by which the traveler may always know his whereabouts and the kind of road which is before him, as he passes hundreds of miles through an unbroken wilderness. It is of the utmost importance to the traveler across such a country, to know where he can find good camping-places, with plenty of wood, water and grass. At the same time, it is a great gratification to him, in traveling on such a long and lonesome journey, to be able at all times to determine his progress and his position, by the landmarks which are described along the road.

These descriptions are brief, but sufficiently explicit to point out the way-marks to the traveler. They also contain much valuable information interesting to the general reader. A much larger amount of such information would have been inserted, had it not been for increasing too much the size of the work. The whole country, from the States to California, could have been so minutely described from notes taken down at the time of passing over it, as to have swelled this little Guide to the size of an ordinary volume.

The work has been prepared at great expense of time and labor. In no other one of the kind with which we are acquainted, have the same pains been taken. Several of the Guides which were in the market, describing



portions of the route, we consulted at the time of passing over the ground, but they were generally so vague and indefinite as to be of but little service. The best one we saw was that prepared by Mr. W. CLAYTON, describing the route from Council Bluffs to Salt Lake which is very good on the road to which it applies.

Guides got up by persons in the States who have never passed over the plains, and consequently have never been eye-witnesses of the things which they describe are of very little practical use to the traveler. Nor can a person, after having passed once over such a long and variegated route, describe it from memory with such accuracy and certainty, as is necessary for a guide.

We have endeavored to prepare a work of practical utility. As to its correctness, we appeal to the candid judgment of those who have passed over the same routes. To accurately measure and correctly describe two thousand miles of road, across an uninhabited country, is no small matter. Whoever does this, on so important thoroughfare as that from the States to California, deserves well of his country, and ought to be encouraged in such an enterprise; so far at least as not to suffer pecuniary loss by the operation.

We trust our efforts will be appreciated by a discriminating and liberal public.

CALIFORNIA, January, 1852.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

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We have received the following recommendations of our work, which we insert. Hundreds of signatures could be obtained, if necessary:

PLACERVILLE, El Dorado Co., California, }  
December 20, 1851. }

Having examined "The Travelers' Guide," prepared by Messrs. P. L. PLATT and N. SLATER, and having also traveled over the entire route, I have no hesitation in certifying to its correctness, and deem it an invaluable guide to the emigrant; being the only one which gives measured distances of the entire route from the Missouri river to the Gold Region in California.

S. M. E. GOHEEN.

We cordially concur in the above recommendation.

JAMES McCOWN,  
JOHN HUME, of *Lima, Ind.*

We the undersigned, having traveled from the States to California, on the route described in the "Travelers' Guide," prepared by Messrs. P. L. PLATT and N. SLATER, cheerfully recommend it as being a correct and useful work for emigrants across the plains.

B. H. KELLEY, Racine Co., Wis.  
WM. HOWE, " "  
N. B. ELIJS, " "  
WILLIAM ROBBINS, Chicago, Ill.  
OBED HARVEY, Elgin, Ill.  
CALEB FINCH, Knox Co., Ill.  
T. L. SLOAN, Ft. Laramie, Nebraska.  
LEWIS D. COOK, Mishawaka, Ind.  
L. HERMANOE, Auburn, N. Y.  
H. S. HULBURD, Rochester, Wis.  
EDW. J. MILLS, Sacramento City.

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# GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA.

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## THE ROUTE FROM ST. JOSEPH TO SACRAMENTO DIRECT.

	Miles.
From ST. JOSEPH to West Bank of the Missouri River, across the Ferry, about	1
From the Ferry you pass over a heavy-timbered bottom, which in many places is soft and miry, and in wet seasons of the year is exceedingly difficult, To THE FIRST STREAM*	6
You now pass over a number of ridges and small streams, some of which are bad to cross, being deep and muddy, To WOLF RIVER,	20
This stream is small, with a deep channel and steep banks, formerly bad to cross, but now improved by	

\*This is the heaviest body of timber through which the road runs in passing from the Missouri river to the Nevada mountains. Emigrants often express the opinion, that the whole amount along the road between these points, does not exceed that sometimes found on a single farm in the States. It is remarkable, that in a distance of 1850 miles there should be so little timber. There will often be a scarcity of wood along the route for cooking purposes; but, fortunately, where this scarcity prevails there is generally something else which can be used as a substitute, such as Buffalo excrements — called "Buffalo Chips"—or wild sage, &c. It will often be necessary to carry a

bridging and digging down the banks, so as to make it quite passable\*

TO THE IOWA MISSION,	-	-	-	-	-	4
TO A SMALL STREAM,	-	-	-	-	-	4
TO ANOTHER,	-	-	-	-	-	14
" "	-	-	-	-	-	8½
" "	-	-	-	-	-	14½
" THE BIG NEMAH,†	-	-	-	-	-	18½
" " LITTLE NEMAH,	-	-	-	-	-	14
" A SMALL STREAM,	-	-	-	-	-	2
" ELM CREEK,	-	-	-	-	-	8½

A number of large elms are standing near it, from which it takes its name.

TO STONY CREEK, 6½

In the bottom of this stream are large stones. The Indians call it Vermillion Creek. From its banks they get red clay with which to paint their faces.

TO SPRING CREEK, 13½

As you cross this stream you will see at your right a good spring.

little fuel along in the wagons ten or twenty miles at a time. Only just enough to do a little cooking should be taken, as it will wear down the teams.

\*People in the States often wish to know whether the streams on this route are bridged or not. We can inform them that they are not, but must be either forded or ferried, according to circumstances. Unless they pass through Salt Lake Valley they will not find more than half a dozen bridges between the States and California.

†When nothing more is said than to mention distances from one point to another, very little difficulty will be experienced in finding good camping-places. The three great requisites of a good camping-place, are grass, water and wood. As the points mentioned in the measurements are generally watering places, and as wood and grass are usually found near the springs and streams of water; they are also, for the most part, good places to camp. Other camping-places will sometimes be found.

## TO THE BIG BLUE,\* - - - - - 3

This is a fine stream, some four or five rods wide, with a swift current, generally three or four feet deep. Fish are often caught in it. There are several good springs within a mile of the ford; some on each side of the river. Plenty of wood and grass. This is the largest stream between the Missouri river and Fort Kearney. The smallness of the streams between these points is accounted for from the fact, that the road runs near the head waters of the tributary streams of the Kansas river on the south, and those of the Platt river on the north.

About ten miles out from the Big Blue, you pass the intersection of the Independence road with the St. Joseph road.

TO THE COTTON WOOD BRANCH, - - - - - 14  
Good place to camp.

## TO THE LITTLE SANDY, - - - - - 22½

## " " BIG SANDY, - - - - - 14½

## " ALE NEAS' CREEK, - - - - - 9

## " THE LITTLE BLUE,† - - - - - 5

You pass up the north side of the stream.

## TO GOOD CAMPING, UP THE RIVER, 7

\*The latter part of the distance between the Big and Little Blue rivers will be found more hilly than any other part of the route yet passed over. There are numerous steep pitches which will require the use of lock chains.

†The Little Blue is a small stream two or three rods wide and from two to four feet deep, and much shaded by a narrow skirt of timber along its banks, which keeps the water cool. The water in this stream, though turbid in appearance, is pleasant-tasted and wholesome. The first part of the road along this river is hilly. This river is a favorite resort of the Pawnee Indians, who are often troublesome to the emigrants in stealing their stock and robbing their wagons. There is considerable game along the Little Blue, such as wild turkeys, antelopes, &c.

You now leave the river and cross a bend over the prairie.

TO THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - - - 21

Good camping here.

TO GOOD CAMPING UP THE RIVER, - - - - - 6

" " " ON " " - - - - - 10

Here, leaving the Little Blue, you bear to the right in a north-westerly direction over high prairie, towards the Platt river.

TO A SMALL STREAM, 16

You will now find a scarcity of wood and good drinking water. It will be best to carry some along with you. About sixteen miles ahead you will come to a range of sandy bluffs, which border the Platt river bottom on the south side, and extend to the lower ford of the south fork, a distance of about 140 miles. After reaching these bluffs you pass up the Platt, obliquely across the bottom land fifteen miles TO FORT KEARNEY,

31

You have now traveled 294 miles from St. Joseph. Emigrants are not usually allowed to camp nearer than one mile of the fort, that the grass within that distance may be reserved for the government animals. The fort is situated on the south side of Platt river, and near the upper end of Grand Island, which is 52 miles long. Its latitude is 40 deg. 38 min. north, and its longitude is 99 deg. west from Greenwich. Its altitude above the sea is about 2000 feet.

The Platt river is quite a large stream being about three-quarters of a mile wide on an average, below the junction of the north and south forks. It has numerous islands somewhat like an archipelago, which are more or less covered with small timber, while the shores of the river are almost entirely destitute of it.

The Platt is a shallow stream but every where swift. Never was a stream more uniform in its velocity. The descent of the river from the junction of the forks to the fort, is about six feet in a mile, consequently the water runs with great rapidity.

The water of the Platt is saturated with marl, earthy limestone and sand, and has a turbid appearance. Before being used for drinking or cooking purposes, it should be settled by sprinkling a handful of corn meal slowly into a pailful of the water, and stirring it at the same time. It will shortly become quite clear, palatable and wholesome. Your next chance for camping is

#### ON THE PLATT RIVER,

20

The great emigrant thoro'fare runs upon the river bottom from the point where you first strike it, to the lower ford of the south fork; some of the way near the river, and some of the way farther back towards the bluffs. The width of this bottom land on the south side of the river varies generally from one to four miles. It is flat and in some places soft in wet weather.

#### TO PLUMB CREEK,

16

This is a small stream a little difficult to cross. It is time for you to begin to see herds of buffaloes. They are sometimes seen farther east. They will be found along the Platt, among the Black hills and along the Sweet Water, but very seldom beyond the Rocky Mountains.

#### TO BRADLEY'S ISLAND,

50

Several small streams cross the road 5 or 6 miles ahead. Take in wood at the third creek, as none can be obtained after that for many miles. These streams are all small. A few scattering cottonwood trees will be found upon them.



## TO THE LOWER CROSSING OF SOUTH FORK,

37

The fords of this fork are all bad. Sometimes one is best and sometimes another; the force of the swift running water constantly moving the quicksands from one place to another in the bed of the stream. Before attempting to cross with a wagon a person should ride across on horseback, and ascertain the best place to ford.

If you cross at this ford bear immediately to your right and keep along the bottom of the North Fork. Twenty-five miles from the ford the road leaves the river. Ten miles farther on you come to Cedar Bluff. At this point take in wood. After passing Cedar Bluff some distance the road comes again to the river. In 27 miles from Cedar Bluff you reach Ash Creek, a very small stream which runs through Ash Hollow into the Platt.

Between the lower and middle crossings there will be a scarcity of grass.

## TO THE MIDDLE CROSSING OF SOUTH FORK

49

This ford was not used until late in the summer of 1850.

## TO THE UPPER CROSSING OF SOUTH FORK,

6

After leaving the upper ford you pass over high rolling prairie to the summit of the hills near Ash Hollow. In this distance you find no suitable water for drinking. In a few places you will find some which will answer for your teams. No timber can be seen in any direction. The grass is indifferent. The descent into Ash Hollow is very steep, crooked and difficult, and requires at least two wheels of the wagon to be locked.

## TO ASH HOLLOW,

12

This place is so called on account of the ash timber which grows here. There is also a little cedar.

It is one of the most hilly, uneven places found upon the route. There are some fifteen or twenty acres covered with ridges and ravines hills and hollows, of various shapes and dimensions.

The road passes down Ash Hollow some two miles, where it is intersected by the road from the lower ford. A little below the junction of the two roads are several good springs. Some grass in Ash Hollow.

TO THE NORTH FORK OF THE PLATT, 3

You will find little or no wood for many miles. You now travel up the north fork of the Platt over small ridges of deep sand, (the deepest found on the road from the States to Fort Laramie,) which makes heavy wheeling.

TO THE LONE ELM CREEK, 25

Here you rise the bluffs. You will now find the road quite good to Fort Laramie. You will find frequent patches of good grass, though the most of the country has a barren appearance.

TO A SMALL STREAM, - - - - - 17

" ANOTHER, - - - - - 1

" " - - - - - 10

All of these streams usually have some water in them, though they may sometimes be dry. Some drift-wood which has come down these streams may be found occasionally along their banks. No timber grows in this part of the country.

TO THE COURT HOUSE OR SOLITARY TOWER, 6

This is a singular structure very much resembling a court house or some large public edifice. It is situated some 8 or 10 miles south of the road, though it appears to the emigrants generally to be not more than 1 or 2 miles from it.

It is here more than any where else previously,

that inexperienced travelers on this route begin to be deceived in relation to distances and the size of objects.

To CHIMNEY ROCK,

13

This has very much the resemblance of the long chimneys of some factories. It can be seen 30 or 40 miles before reaching it. It is situated 2 or 3 miles to the left of the road.

To SCOTT'S BLUFFS,

20

These Bluffs can also be seen 25 or 30 miles before reaching them. At a distance they have very much the appearance of a city or fortification. They are situated so near the river as to make it necessary for the road to pass to the left of them. The road here leaves the river for some miles and makes a circuit over the uplands.

The composition of the Court House, Chimney Rock and Scott's Bluff's is the same; consisting of marl and earthy limestone, which is sufficiently soft to be worn by the action of the winds and rains into the shapes which they assume.

Near the west end of Scott's Bluffs, (so called from the circumstance of a man by the name of Scott being killed there a few years ago,) are a trading post, some springs of water, wood and grass. As you ascend the hill after passing this trading post, you get the first view of Laramie Peak, a high mountain among the Black Hills, over 100 miles distant. Its height is 6,500 feet above the sea.

To HORSE CREEK,

12½

Tolerable good camping here. Drift wood may be found up this creek.

To A SMALL STREAM, - - - - - 13½

" TRADING POST, - - - - - 11

Great numbers of buffalo skins are annually collected here from Indians in the surrounding country,

and sent to St. Louis to be sold in the States. In 1849 eleven thousand were sent.

TO FORT LARAMIE,

15

You have now passed over 337 miles since leaving Fort Kearney. Fort Laramie (formerly a post of the American Fur Company,) is situated on the west side of Laramie river, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from its entrance into the north fork of the Platt, and about 1 mile above the point where the emigration road crosses it. This ford is sometimes a little difficult on account of the swiftness of the stream.

The latitude of the fort is 42 deg. 12 min. 13 sec.; its longitude is 104 deg. 47 min. 43 sec.; its altitude above the sea is 4,470 feet.

From the fort there are several roads leading westerly towards the South Pass. The Mormon trail is through the Black Hills nearly 100 miles before reaching the river. The one traveled the most is near the river, though only part of the time in sight of it, and is considered the best on account of grass and water. The Black Hills are so called on account of the dark colored pines which grow upon them. You reach these hills in 12 or 15 miles from the fort.

TO THE LIME KILN SPRING,

14 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

" BITTER COTTON WOOD CREEK,

7

The country has a barren appearance among the Black Hills. Grass will be found only in spots. Whenever there is much emigration it will often be necessary to go 2 or 3 miles off from the road to find grass.

TO THE COTTON WOOD CREEK,

3

" DRY " " "

4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

" ELK CREEK,

2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 

Multitudes of elk are often seen near the mouth of this creek.

## To ROCK SPRINGS,

2

These springs are on your right. On your left is a high ledge of rocks. Near these springs are evidences of iron ore and coal.

## To HORSE SHOE CREEK,

3½

This stream runs through a beautiful valley. From here

## To THE PLATT RIVER,

8

" " " " AGAIN,

6

After traveling up the river two miles you ascend the bluffs and follow a dividing range between two streams six miles, when by descending to flat on the left you will find some water and grass. You travel on

## To THE LABONTE RIVER,

16

Several miles before reaching the Labonte river, a road leading from Fort Laramie through the Black Hills comes in upon the left.

## To A BRANCH OF THE LABONTE,

8½

## " RED BANK CREEK,

3½

After traveling on about 6 miles, you turn to the right over a small ridge

## To A SMALL STREAM,

6¾

## " THE LAPEAL CREEK,

8

## " " SPRING BRANCH,

5¾

## " LITTLE DEER CREEK,

3¾

## " THE PLATT RIVER,

4

This is the first point where the river road comes to the river after passing the Black Hills. You have now traveled 53¾ miles among the hills back from the river.

## To DEER CREEK,\*

5

\*The measurement in this guide crossed at the lower ferry and passed up on the north side to the Mormon ferry. The

This is a small but beautiful stream of water. The place itself is very beautiful. Plenty of wood and considerable grass here. Trains often go up this stream from 6 to 12 miles, and tarry a number of days to recruit their animals.

About a quarter of a mile up stream, on the east side is a coal mine.

TO PLATT FERRY,

1

This is called the Lower Ferry. There is an objection to crossing here and traveling up on the north side of the Platt, on account of deep sand for several miles on the first part of the route. There is tolerable grass in places and plenty of wood. The most of the travel passes up the south side of the river.

TO THE MORMON FERRY,\*

22

This is also called the Upper Ferry. There are two or three fords near this ferry which can be used in low water. You now leave the Platt for the last time and ascend the bluffs, bearing to the north on Rattle Snake hill. These snakes are large and numerous.

You will find no good water along the road for 22 miles from the river. You will find some which is very poisonous, on account of the immense amount of alkali in this region. Thousands of cattle and horses have died here from drinking the water. Keep your stock from this water or you will lose your teams.

road on the south side is more crooked, longer and crosses several small streams. About 10 miles from Deer Creek the road crosses Crooked Muddy Creek. About 6 miles further it crosses another still smaller. In the distance of about 12 miles to the ferry are three more small streams.

\*It is understood that the United States government have erected a bridge across the north fork of the Platt at this point.

At the foot of the hill you come

To A SMALL STREAM, 10

The water in this stream is mixed with alkali.

Still farther on you come

To A SMALL LAKE, 2

The water in this lake is not good. A very little may do no harm.

To THE WILLOW SPRINGS, 10

" " UPPER SPRING, 2½

Water cold and good. Grass plenty, but creek somewhat miry.

To SAGE SPRING CREEK, 2¾

" FISH RUN, 6

This stream is full of small fish. The water is good. About 10 miles ahead you will come to some alkali springs and lakes. On the surface of these lakes you will find plenty of *saleratus*. Bushels of it have been gathered and carried to Salt Lake for cooking purposes. It is nearly as good as that manufactured in the States.

To THE SWEET WATER RIVER, 14¾

You now follow up the Sweet Water river 98½ miles, and within 10 miles of the south pass. About three-quarters of a mile from the point where you strike the river you come to Independence Rock. This is an isolated granite rock, about one hundred and twenty-five rods long, and one hundred and twenty feet high. The sides of it are covered with the names of hundreds of travelers, who have passed it within the last few years. The mountainous, rocky ridges along the Sweet Water for 30 or 40 miles, are chiefly granite. There are several fords at and above Independence Rock, within a mile.

Along the Sweet Water, most of the way, are narrow bottoms of good grass. Adjacent to these bot-

toms are large, arid, wild-sage plains, extending to the mountains.

TO THE UPPER FORD, - - - - - 2

This ford is usually the best.

TO A SMALL STREAM, - - - - - 6

This is a little beyond the Devil's Gate, a gap in the granite ridge through which the Sweet Water passes. The passage through the gap is about fifty rods; the perpendicular walls on each side are about one hundred feet apart and four hundred feet high.

TO ANOTHER SMALL STREAM, - - - - -  $2\frac{1}{2}$

" THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - - -  $7\frac{1}{2}$

" " SECOND CUT, - - - - -  $2\frac{1}{2}$

Here the river passes through the mountain again.

TO SAGE CREEK, - - - - - 3

" THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - - - 3

Here the river passes between two high bluffs.

TO A SMALL STREAM, - - - - - 2

After traveling about two miles you pass between a high gravel bluff and the river. Here is a good ford.

TO BITTER COTTON WOOD CREEK, - - - - -  $3\frac{1}{2}$

Near this stream stand several large cotton wood trees.

TO THE SECOND FORD, - - - - -  $6\frac{1}{2}$

If you cross the river here, you will have to cross it four times in  $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles, by which you would save about 2 miles travel. If the river is too high, or you choose not to cross it, you rise the bluffs and travel in deep sand.

TO THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - - - 9

You now follow up the river

TO THE BLUFFS, - - - - - 2

Over the bluffs about one mile you strike the other road leading from the ford. You now continue



## TO THE MARSH,

On this marsh are the alkali and ice springs, where by digging down two feet at any season of the year, you will find ice, but no good water. You follow this marsh about 3 miles and then rise the bluffs.

## TO THE RIVER AGAIN,

By crossing the river here you travel on the bottom 4 miles and cross it again. If you choose, you can avoid crossing the river, leaving it at your left. You then pass over a ridge one mile to the bottom, and follow the river

## TO THE BLUFFS,

You here leave the river and travel on a very bad road

## TO A MARSH,

You follow along this marsh

## TO SOME SPRINGS,

" A SMALL STREAM,

" STRAWBERRY CREEK,

" THE ASPEN SPRINGS,

" A BRANCH OF THE SWEET WATER,

" THE WILLOW CREEK,

" " SWEET WATER,

Here the road leaves the waters which flow into the Atlantic. From the Sweet Water you travel about seven miles and pass between two mounds. A short distance beyond you can turn to the right one quarter of a mile and find good feed. From the Sweet Water

## TO THE SOUTH PASS,

This pass is a slightly undulating plain between mountains several miles apart. The ascent over the pass is so gradual as to be almost imperceptible. Snow-covered mountains can be seen in several di-

4

14

10

4

3

1

2 $\frac{1}{4}$ 

1

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ 

5

10

rections. The Wind River range lie off to the right, covered with everlasting snows.

The distance now passed over since leaving Fort Laramie is  $289\frac{3}{4}$  miles; since leaving St. Joseph,  $920\frac{3}{4}$  miles. The altitude of the pass is 7,000 feet above the sea.

TO THE PACIFIC SPRINGS,

$2\frac{3}{4}$

Here you strike the first waters of the Pacific ocean. A very miry marsh extends along the road about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles on your right, on which is good grass. Near the lower end, some forty rods from the road, is one of the best of springs. Your fuel here will be wild sage.

TO THE PACIFIC CREEK,

$1\frac{1}{2}$

This is a small stream but a little miry. [Persons traveling to Salt Lake will find a new route turning to the left here, and following down the Pacific Creek to its entrance into Green river. This is some farther, but has more grass and water than the other road towards Salt Lake.]

TO THE DRY SANDY,

9

This stream is often dry; but when dry at the road, water can usually be found a quarter of a mile up stream. The water, however, is not very good. Good grass may be found 4 miles up stream.

TO THE JUNCTION OF SALT LAKE AND FORT HALL ROAD,

$6\frac{1}{2}$

The right hand road leads to Fort Hall, the left to Fort Bridger and Salt Lake.

TO THE LITTLE SANDY,

$3\frac{3}{4}$

TO THE BIG SANDY,

7

You now have to travel over an almost barren desert, with very little grass and no water

TO GREEN RIVER,

$41\frac{1}{2}$

Some 2 miles previous to reaching the river, you

have to descend an exceedingly difficult hill, but safe with care,

To THE FORD, OR FERRY,

1½

Some 2 miles below the Ferry, on the east side of the river, are good grass and wood. On the west side is good camping. This stream is very difficult to cross, either by ferrying or fording. Many lives and much property have been lost here.

To A BRANCH OF GREEN RIVER,

8¾

" THE FORD OF THE BRANCH,

3

Here you leave the Branch and cross the ridge

To A SMALL STREAM,

6¼

" ANOTHER,

3

" THE MOUNTAIN SPRING,

2

" " ALKALI SPRINGS,

5¾

" POPLAR RIDGE,

8

Here you pass a very thick poplar grove.

To HAM'S FORK OF G. RIVER,

2

This is a very bad stream to cross.

To THE MOUNTAIN PEAK,

2

" " POPLAR TIMBER GROVE,

6

" " BALSAM FIR GROVE,

3

" " MARSH SPRING CREEK,

4

Here are springs of poison water. Look out.

To BEAR RIVER VALLEY CREEK,

9

Here you strike the road from Fort Bridger. This is a very difficult stream to cross, and has to be forded several times within a short distance. You then have a very bad, stony road for half a mile. You can, however, avoid it by going round 4 miles further, on a good road, with plenty of grass and water,

To SMITH'S FORK OF BEAR RIVER,

5

" THOMAS' FORK,

14¾

Here you have to swim your teams and raft your

goods. After traveling about 2 miles you leave the river, and cross exceedingly difficult hills.

TO THE RIVER AGAIN,

11

You now have a very excellent road, bearing nearly north along the valley.

TO TALLIE'S CREEK,

7

" WILLOW

5

" ASHLIE'S

6

" MUDDY

10

Look out now for bad water.

TO THE WILLOW SPRING,

5

A little previous to reaching the Soda springs, you will cross several poisonous streams of water. Great care should be taken to prevent your animals from drinking; until you reach Bear river, near the springs.

TO SODA SPRINGS,

5½

These springs are at the north side of a beautiful grove of Cedar. The water is good to drink.

TO BEAR RIVER SPRING,

1

This spring is on the bend of the river where you leave it; or rather where it leaves you, and runs almost directly south, forming a great bend. Here water your teams. No water, and but little grass will be found for 16 miles

TO THE JUNCTION OF SUBLET'S CUT-OFF AND FORT HALL ROAD,

4

Here you take the left hand road

TO MOUNTAIN WILLOW CREEK,

13

Here is but very little grass.

TO NEXT STREAM,

5

" SAME

" AGAIN,

8

After leaving this stream you rise a mountain. On descending it, you follow down a ravine, very difficult, on account of the narrowness of the passage,

deep ruts and mud holes. Great care is necessary in descending. At the end of this descent you reach a beautiful valley, on the opposite side of which is VALLEY MARSH CREEK,

Here you rise another mountain. On descending it, near its foot, in a bunch of willows on your left, is a

SPRING OF GOOD WATER, - - - - - 8½

TO THE WILLOW MUDDY CREEK, - - - - - 7

Water not very good.

TO GRAVEL CREEK, - - - - - 8

This is good water and full of trout. You now soon enter a ravine and gradually rise the mountain.

TO THE SUMMIT, - - - - - 7

You now descend through a deep and difficult ravine,

TO THE VALLEY, - - - - - 2

No water, but plenty of wood and grass. You now strike across the valley to another mountain, which you gradually rise.

TO ITS SUMMIT, - - - - - 10

Here at your right is a good spring of water. On your left is plenty of wood and grass.

TO A SMALL STREAM, - - - - - 4½

But little water here, and that not very good. You now pass up a ravine, at the head of which is a

SPRING OF GOOD WATER, - - - - - 7

TO ANOTHER SPRING, - - - - - 2½

Here you rise the summit and pass over it,

TO ANOTHER SPRING, - - - - - ¼

This is the head water of Raft river. You now follow down the ravine

TO A SMALL MUDDY CREEK, - - - - - 5½

This is bad to cross and empties into the east branch of Raft river

TO ANOTHER MUDDY CREEK, 3

This also empties into the east branch. You now continue down this stream to the valley of the head waters of raft river,

TO EAST BRANCH OF RAFT RIVER, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

As you near this valley, you cannot but be struck with its beauty, being surrounded with lofty mountains whose tops are covered with snow. It is about 25 miles to the west side. The road is unpleasant to travel, on account of the great quantity of wild sage, and the clayey soil over which it passes. In wet weather the road is often badly cut up.

TO RAFT RIVER, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$

The river here appears to be divided, forming an island which is marshy and muddy to the west side of it.

TO THE RIVER AGAIN, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$

You now travel over a bad road of sage roots and gravel,

TO WEST BRANCH OF RAFT RIVER. 2

This stream is difficult to cross, being deep and muddy. After crossing, you will find plenty of wood and grass. Here you strike the road leading from Fort Hall to Salt Lake city, which is 180 miles long. You now follow up the branch

TO THE FORD. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$

This is also bad crossing, being very muddy on the opposite side; but you will find plenty of wood and grass. You now leave the branch and ascend a dividing ridge, between the waters of Raft river and those of Goose Creek. You now cross a number of small streams, with plenty of wood, water and grass

TO THE VALLEY STREAM. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$

In the centre of this valley is

ANOTHER SMALL STREAM, 3

And on the west side is

ANOTHER LARGER STREAM,

2

You now commence rising the mountain again, (not very steep,) through a pass bearing to the left, over a small ridge,

TO A MOUNTAIN STREAM,

3½

This stream is not large, but deep and muddy. Plenty of wood and grass here. The stream takes its rise in a cluster of monumental rocks, which rest their base on the smooth surface and extend upwards hundreds of feet, presenting a beautiful appearance. Among them is one called the Steeple-Rock, from its resemblance to a steeple. This cluster of conical rocks is sometimes called the City Rocks, on account of some resemblance in them to a city. You now cross a number of ridges and streams of water. Road not very good,

TO JUNCTION OF SALT LAKE AND CALIFORNIA ROAD,

5

You now pass over a small ridge to a valley, and

TO A SMALL STREAM,

2½

And in the centre of the valley

ANOTHER SMALL STREAM,

1

And on the opposite side, which is sometimes soft and muddy,

TO ANOTHER SMALL STREAM,

1½

You now ascend the Goose Creek range of mountains, which are the highest in the region, though not very high above the surrounding country, whose general level is not less than 5,000 feet above the sea. As you ascend the mountain you will find a good spring of water near the road at your right.

TO A SMALL CREEK,

4½

Along this creek are some evidences of the existence of gold. You will now have a very hilly road for several miles, in your descent to Goose Creek.

About 4 miles ahead you will have a very steep hill to descend, but safe with care,

To A SMALL STREAM,

4½

This stream is a tributary of Goose Creek.

To GOOSE CREEK AND UP TO A BRANCH,

3½

As you enter Goose Creek valley, you will be delighted with its beauty. It contains several table bluffs, mountain-high, with their smooth, level tops, breaking off square at their edges, then gradually and smoothly sloping down to the level of the valley. You do not cross Goose Creek, but follow up on the east side,

To A SMALL CREEK,

7

This is miry and bad to cross. You now pass over a small ridge

To THE RIVER AGAIN,

2

You will find some alkali on Goose Creek. You will cross another small and somewhat miry stream

To THE HEAD OF THE VALLEY,

10½

Goose creek forked about 2 miles back. The north fork, which is the largest, bears west among the mountains. Up this fork some 6 miles gold has been found.

Leaving the head of the valley, you follow up the south fork through a cut in the mountain. Road not good,

To THE FORD,

2½

You first cross from the south to the north side of the stream, and after traveling up some distance, cross over back again to the south side and leave it. Both crossings are somewhat miry. Soon after leaving the stream you ascend and descend a long hill, which is almost entirely covered, both up and down, with small stones. The road is crooked, with no water and but little grass.



## To SPRING VALLEY,

12

On entering this valley, a little at the right, under a ledge of rocks, is a spring of good clear water, though a little warm when first taken out. It is called "Rock Spring." In this valley you will pass a number of springs or natural wells, several feet in diameter and often deeper than they are wide. Some of them contain strong alkali water. You will also find in this valley an efflorescence of dry alkali, spread over the surface of the ground. You follow

## Down THIS VALLEY,

10½

You now turn to the right over a small ridge,

## To THE HOT-SPRING VALLEY,

2½

These valleys are considered by some to be one and the same valley, and are called, "Thousand Spring Valley," on account of the numerous springs in them. The road soon strikes a stream of tolerable good water, though somewhat tinged with alkali, which runs through the valley in a north-east direction. It is called by some "Alkali Creek," by others, "Cold Water Creek." You now follow up this valley,

## To A SPRING OF GOOD WATER,

14

You will find considerable alkali in this valley.

## To A COLLECTION OF HOT SPRINGS,

1

These springs are a great curiosity. The steam from them may often be seen several miles, having the appearance of smoke. Some of these springs have a temperature of 180 degrees. They are impregnated with several mineral substances, among which is sulphur. They are numerous and form quite a stream. After leaving them for some 3 miles, you have a miry, bad road. You continue up to the head of the valley, and

## To A SPRING OF GOOD WATER,

7

This spring is situated a little distance from the valley, up a ravine. Near this spring the road forks.

The right hand road turns up the hill, out of the ravine, and does not come into the road again for nearly 30 miles. The left hand road passes up the wide ravine or depression between the mountains, gradually ascending for some 2 miles. As you ascend you will find several springs on your left. You pass over the dividing ridge,

To A SMALL STREAM, 6

Still further on, in a small valley, are a number of  
SPRINGS OF GOOD WATER, - - - - - 6

You then pass over hills,  
To ANOTHER VALLEY, - - - - - 8

The water in this valley is bad, except a few springs. You continue down the valley about 4 miles, cross the stream and bear to your left, crossing the valley and also passing over a small ridge,

To A BEAUTIFUL VALLEY, - - - - - 5

You follow down this valley—no water—  
To THE CREEK, - - - - - 4

Here you cross the stream, which is somewhat difficult. Near the upper opening, which is usually the best, is a spring of good water. You continue down this valley to Mary's valley, and

To MARY'S RIVER, 9

The valley about the head waters of Mary's river is a most beautiful valley. You will see the Humbolt mountains not far distant on your left, covered with everlasting snows, while you are in the valley below, melting under the scorching rays of the sun, during the longest days of the summer. You cross Mary's river and continue down on the north side of it,

To THE NORTH BRANCH OF MARY'S RIVER, 21

On the east side of this branch are large quantities of alkali and some salceeratus. The ground is made white as snow with them. The crossing of the stream is not bad. You continue down the valley, occasionally passing over considerable hills. You will find a collection of hot springs and an Indian ford ahead. The springs are on the opposite side of the river.

TO THE END OF THE VALLEY,

55

A little before reaching the end of the valley, the south branch of Mary's river, which comes down from the base of the Humbolt mountains, enters the river from an easterly direction. At the end of the valley the road forks; one branch leading up over a mountain, which is the one described in the Guide; the other bearing to the left down the river, and crossing it four times in less than 10 miles. The crossings are not bad in low water, but difficult in high water. Between the first and second crossings, a road from Salt Lake across the 75 mile desert comes in.

TO A SMALL STREAM OF GOOD WATER,

2½

You follow down this stream

TO THE FORD,

3

You now cross a number of ridges and valleys

TO A SPRING OF GOOD WATER,

8½

TO ANOTHER,

3

This spring is some 80 rods to your left. You now pass over the summit of the hill or ridge

TO A SPRING OF GOOD WATER,

1

" MORE SPRINGS,

1

One of these springs near the track is very deep, and nearly level with the surface of the ground. If your animals step in, which is sometimes the case, you will have to pull them out. A little below, in

a bunch of bushes, is another. You now enter a very deep ravine, rough and stony. After leaving it you pass over ridges and valleys with no water and but little grass. Emigrants on horseback and on foot, should be careful not to take left hand paths, which appear to lead to the river, but which will only lead them 5 or 6 miles out of the way. The river here takes a short turn to the north, which is well calculated to deceive.

TO MARY'S RIVER,

17

This 17 miles should be commenced, if possible, in the morning. At the end of this distance the road forks again. The left hand road crosses the river, and passes down upon the south side of the river to the desert at the end of the sink. The right hand road, which is the one described in the Guide, keeps down upon the north side, and is some 30 miles farther, but has better grass and avoids crossing the stream. There are, however, several places in this distance where travelers sometimes ford Mary's river in low water, but in high water they cannot ford it.

TO THE RIVER AGAIN,

4

You now enter a large barren valley, which you follow

TO STONY CREEK,

6½

You follow up the creek

TO THE FORD,

3

If emigrants would dig down its banks below, it would save them some 6 miles travel. You now follow down the creek; road very stony and rough, but no good water, except in the creek.

TO ROCK POINT,

11½

You now pass over a ledge of rocks

TO THE RIVER,

½

You here travel some distance on the bank of the river, and then leave it and travel

To A SMALL CREEK, - - - - - 5 $\frac{3}{4}$

" THIS CREEK AGAIN, - - - - - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

By driving your cattle over the creek you will find some feed.

To THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - - - 11

" GRASS AND WATER, - - - - - 4

" THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - - - 10

No grass here. By bearing to the right some 2 miles, you will find what is called the "Clover Patch." By digging two or three feet you can obtain good water.

To SULPHUR SPRING, 5

From here you pass over hills and ridges, with some sand and little feed,

To SAND HILL CREEK, - - - - - 24 $\frac{1}{2}$

" THE SAND HILLS, - - - - - 8

You now cross a succession of sand hills, on some of which the wheeling is very heavy. You are often in sight of the river, where you can get grass and water.

To THE RIVER AGAIN, 20

Late in the season, when the river is low, you can cross it 6 miles short of this and get good grass; and also 2 miles below.

From the river you now cross a barren, clayey plain. No grass or water, and road some stony.

To THE RIVER AGAIN, 11

You now travel over a clayey plain often near the river. As grass is very scarce on this part of the route, every opportunity should be embraced to get it.

To THE RIVER AGAIN, 42

From here you travel over a very barren road, with very little opportunity to obtain grass for your animals.

To A GOOD SPRING, - - - 30

Previous to reaching this spring the road forks. The left hand road leads to the river, where there is plenty of grass. Here cut your grass for the desert. If you take the right hand road, you will pass the point of a mountain and strike another plain, in the centre of which is a dry slough, (called 'slue,' in the North-western States,) where there are some wells of water and plenty of grass.

To THE WELLS, 4

After traveling from the wells some distance, by bearing to the left you will find some feed.

To THE SOUTH END OF THE SINK, 12½

No grass or good water for 39½ miles. Here you prepare for the desert and pass over a small ridge, to a valley where a part of the water of Mary's river, having escaped from the lake, sinks. On entering the valley you bear to the right, leaving the valley to your left. You, however, soon turn to the left, and crossing the valley, pass between two bluffs. Road good, for a desert.

To THE SALT SPRINGS, 12

A little of this water will do your animals no harm. The road is good, except a little sandy.

To THE SAND RIDGE, - - - 15½

You now travel through deep sand

To CARSON RIVER, - - - 12

This river is skirted in places with cotton-wood trees. You now follow up the river. Some of the way good grass will be found.

To THE BLUFFS, 8

From here you cross a number of stony and sandy ridges. Road very bad and no water.

To THE WHITE CLAY BEDS, 7½

They appear to have been covered with water at

some seasons of the year. In crossing the bed you rise a short hill. From its top, off at your left, you can see the tops of the trees, on the banks of the river. At the foot of the hill you take the left hand track

TO THE RIVER,

1½

Late in the season, when the water is low, you can follow up the river. When the water is high, you leave the river and cross over a beautiful clayey and sandy plain. On ascending the first ridge about 8 miles, you will find a little bunch-grass. After this you cross another clayey plain

TO THE RIVER AGAIN,

18½

You now follow up the river

TO THE BLUFFS,

7½

Near the point where the road strikes the bluffs a little to the right, a ravine comes down from the mountains from the north-west. Up this ravine some 2 miles from the road, several thousand dollars of gold were dug by emigrants in the spring of 1851. From here the road is bad. The hills are steep and stony.

TO THE RIVER AGAIN,

8

You have now reached the north-east end of what is called "Carson Valley"—the largest fertile spot found on the route since leaving the head-waters of Mary's river. Along this valley you will find good grass. A small settlement was commenced in this valley, in the summer of 1851. The valley is about 30 miles long. The west side, next to the Nevada mountains, is the most fertile. From here you follow the river about 1 mile and turn to the right up a small stream, between two bluffs, into the edge of a valley. You bear to the left over a sage plain,

TO THE RIVER AGAIN,

6

From here you travel up the valley between the river on your left and the mountains on your right, passing springs of good water, and crossing a number of streams which run down from the mountain. We would advise all to stop in this valley and recruit their teams before crossing the Nevada mountains.

TO THE BLUFFS OR RIDGE,

23'

These bluffs are in the southern part of Carson Valley. You now leave the large valley, and cross over stony and somewhat sandy ridges, to a small valley at the foot of the mountains, which may be called

CANON CREEK VALLEY,

4½

You now ascend up the Canon between the mountains, following up the west branch of Carson river.

TO THE 1ST BRIDGE,

1

Here you will find a little grass. You follow up the Canon over one of the worst pieces of road between the States and California, through the most difficult passes, over rocks and quagmires,

TO THE 3D AND LAST BRIDGE,

4

Most of the 4 miles is bad. The ascent through this Canon is several hundred feet. Many wagons are broken here and abandoned. Sometimes good wagons and carriages are left here and afterwards sent for from California, with fresh animals. After passing the last bridge the road soon becomes better.

TO HOPE VALLEY CREEK,

3

This valley is long and narrow, covered in places with scattering timber. You travel up this valley in a south-west direction, finding some good grass and water. You cross a small stream and some spring holes.

TO THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN,

5



You now gradually ascend a mountain and pass on

To RED LAKE,

2

This is a small lake with miry shores. You pass along the lake, road being quite sideling,

To ITS INLET,

1

You have now reached the foot of what is called the First Mountain. This is the steepest and rather the most difficult mountain which you have to ascend on the whole route.

To ITS SUMMIT,

 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

The descent of the mountain, though much longer, is bad, the road being very rocky, with numerous short turns.

To THE MOUNTAIN LAKE,

3

This is a small lake, situated between the first mountain and the main ridge of the Nevada mountains. It is surrounded by flats covered with the best of grass. In crossing Mountain Valley, you leave the lake at your right, fording a number of small streams, which run down from the mountain and pass

To THE POINT OF THE MOUNTAIN,

1

You now turn to your left up the mountain. Occasionally you come to places very steep and stony. You also cross a number of little streams and mud-holes, caused by the melting snow which remains in many places the year round.

To THE FOOT OF THE SNOW-TOP MOUNTAIN,

2

Here you commence ascending a very difficult mountain, in consequence of the deep snow over which you pass; and stony, rocky and sideling places.

To THE SUMMIT,

1  $\frac{3}{4}$ 

[This summit is not less than 9,000 feet above the level of the sea. It always has more or less snow

upon it.] You have now passed over  $24\frac{1}{4}$  the longest miles ever measured with wheels. From the summit off at your right you will see a small lake. In the same direction about half a mile you will find good grass. Here, by all means, feed. If you are packing, you can take this path and cut off some 5 miles. On leaving the summit for 3 miles, you have a very bad road. In some places, for short distances, you pass over ledges of rocks exceedingly difficult and dangerous. After this the road is some better.

To A SMALL STREAM,

$5\frac{3}{4}$

This stream passes through Rock valley. Some grass here. You now pass over numerous hills, with more descent than ascent. This will be the character of the road for 75 miles down to the Sacramento valley.

To ROCK LAKE,

$3\frac{1}{2}$

This lake is a large pond in the basin of the mountains. You now cross a ridge with very little grass

To TRAGEDY SPRINGS,

$2\frac{1}{4}$

These springs are so called, from the fact that three of the first explorers of this route were killed here by the Indians. Their graves and the springs are both on the left of the road as you ascend a hill. Road stony and rather bad. You cross a small ridge with very little grass,

To GRAVEL ROCK,

$2\frac{1}{4}$

This rock, which is within a few feet of the road, and some twenty feet in diameter, appears to have been the production of some volcanic eruption. It is composed mostly of small stones cemented together. Down at your left a few rods are feed and water. On your road for some 2 miles you will find a little grass. You will then have to depend mostly on browse. The native rock on this ridge is gray

granite. From here you travel over a very hilly, crooked road

To LEEK SPRINGS,

4½

Down the stream made by this spring is good grass; but there is something on which horses feed that poisons them. From this spring you cross a ridge of some 2 miles in extent. The descent is very steep. You now have a somewhat better road, except some stony places. You descend a mountain more than a mile,

To CAMP CREEK,

9¼

No grass here. You do not cross Camp Creek, but turn from it to the right, up a long hill. The ascent of the hill is smooth, but the descent is steep, stony and rough.

To COLD SPRING,

5

No grass here. In some places along the road a species of wild corn will be found, which cattle will eat when hungry. On leaving this spring you cross another ridge. The hills are steep and would be considered mountainous in any other country but this. As you descend you strike at right-angles, what is called "Hog Back Ridge," whose top is very narrow. You follow this ridge

To PLATT'S SPRING,

7

This spring is named after one of the authors of this Guide; it not having been previously known by any name. You now travel over hills not very bad,

To THE MOUNTAIN HOUSE,

4

This is a temporary trading station, where hay and other articles can be obtained during the season of emigration. To get grass you will have to travel off about 3 miles from the road.

TO THE FORKS OF WEBERVILLE AND PLACERVILLE  
(HANGTOWN) ROADS, 3/4

Here you take the right hand road. The left leads to Weberville, a mining town about 15 miles distant. You now have quite a good road, except a great amount of dust. No grass.

TO THE EMIGRANTS' RETREAT, 8 1/4

Good grass and water here.

TO JOHNSON'S RANCH, 1 1/4

This is the first cultivated spot you reach in California. You have now traveled nearly 40 miles with but little grass, and most of the way exceedingly bad road. From Johnson's Ranch the road is not very good. Some grass in places.

TO PLACERVILLE, (HANGTOWN) 6 3/4

This place is in the midst of the mining region and contains about 2,000 souls. It is the largest place in the Mines except Nevada city. It is surrounded by numerous large villages. It is about 12 miles from Coloma, where gold was first discovered. There are roads leading from Placerville in all directions through the mines and to Sacramento City, which is about 50 miles distant, in a westerly direction. If you wish to prosecute your journey to Sacramento City you pass over a high hill.

TO WEBER CREEK, 2 1/4

You pass over a ridge

TO DIAMOND SPRINGS, 1 1/4

This is a mining town.

TO MUD SPRINGS, 1 3/4

This is also a mining town.

TO THE KINGSVILLE HOUSE, 2 1/4

" " 40 MILE HOUSE, 2 1/4

" " SHINGLE SPRING HOUSE, 2

" " EL DORADO HOUSE, 1 1/4

To DEER CREEK, - - - - - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

There is a public house here.

To THE RAIL ROAD HOUSE, - - - - - 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

" " CARSON RIVER HOUSE, - - - - -  $\frac{1}{2}$

You have now reached the foot of the hills and the border of the Sacramento valley. From here to the Sacramento river is about 30 miles.

To THE WHITE ROCK HOUSE, - - - - - 2 $\frac{3}{4}$

" " PRAIRIE HOUSE, - - - - - 4 $\frac{3}{4}$

" " WESTERN HOUSE, - - - - -  $\frac{1}{2}$

" " KINYON HOUSE, - - - - - 1 $\frac{3}{4}$

" " EASTERN HOUSE, - - - - - 3

" " 15 MILE HOUSE, - - - - -  $\frac{1}{2}$

" " 10 MILE HOUSE, - - - - - 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

" " AMERICAN FORK HOUSE, - - - - -  $\frac{3}{4}$

This and the last mentioned house are situated on the south bank of the American river, called by the Spaniards, "Rio de los Americanos." You now have about six miles of sandy road.

To THE PAVILLION, - - - - - 4

There is a collection of houses here. The place is very beautiful, and is called Brighton.

To SACRAMENTO CITY, - - - - - 7

This measurement extends to the levee at the west end of the city. The city is between 1 and 2 miles long from east to west, and contains about 15,000 inhabitants. Steamboats leave Sacramento City every afternoon, at 2 P. M., and arrive in San Francisco the same evening at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  P. M. Fare from one to five dollars. Down the Sacramento river

To SAN FRANCISCO, - - - - - 130

# APPENDIX.

## NO. I.

CONTAINING THE ROUTE FROM FORT LEAVENWORTH TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE ST. JOSEPH ROAD, A LITTLE EAST OF THE BIG BLUE RIVER.

This road, after passing out from the fort 14 miles, divides; the right hand road being the old one, and the left hand road the new one, which was surveyed and first traveled in the spring of 1850. The distances on the old road are as follows, viz:

From Fort Leavenworth	
To INDEPENDENCE CREEK,	16
Good wood, water and grass here.	
To CLOUGH CREEK,	16
Good camping here.	
To WOLF CREEK,	10
Plenty of fish in this stream.	
To STRANGER CREEK,	24
Good grass. Wood and water indifferent. Several camping-places in the last distance. You pass over an excellent road	
To BIG NEMAHA,	30
Wood and water no where found together since leaving Stranger Creek.	
To LITTLE NEMAHA,	10

This stream is a remarkably fine one, and affords every thing desirable for an encampment.

To A BRANCH OF THE NEMAHA, - - - 20

All the requisites of a good camp here.

To THE BIG BLUE, - - - 12

The left-hand or new road is the shortest and the best. It intersects the St. Joseph road 103 miles out from the fort. It is somewhat crooked, like all the other routes, to avoid the hills and hollows, and to strike the streams at the best points for fording. This road has been remarkably well laid out by the government surveyors, being located more nearly on a level, and running with more directness than any one would suppose it could, judging from the rolling aspect of the country through which it passes.

On this road are frequent springs and small streams of water, running in deep, narrow trenches, but not a single marsh or swampy place occurs on this road, between the fort and its junction with the St. Joseph road. The land is high and dry from the banks of one stream to those of the other. This feature in the country is very noticeable. The streams being small, though having deep channels, are not difficult to cross. The prairies are large and well covered with upland grass. At the springs and brooks some wood is generally found. There will be no great difficulty in finding camping-places on this route.

## NO. II.

### ROUTE FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS TO FORT LARAMIE ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PLATE.

From Council Bluffs—road hilly and crooked, but smooth—

To PAPPEA CREEK, - - - 18

- The road is crooked and uneven.
- To ELK HORN CREEK, - - - 9  
Rather bad to ferry. Plenty of timber.
- To BRIDGE CREEK, - - - 1  
Very little timber on this creek.
- To PLATT RIVER AND LIBERTY POLE, - - - 12  
Plenty of timber here.
- To A SMALL LAKE, - - - 3½  
Situatd on the south side of the road. No tim-  
ber upon it.
- To ANOTHER LAKE, - - - 3  
No timber in this vicinity. A number of ponds  
along the road.
- To THE RIVER AGAIN, - - - 9  
" " " " - - - 8  
" SHELL CREEK, - - - 2  
Over this creek is a bridge. A little below is a ford.
- To A SMALL LAKE, - - - 6  
This is dry, except in the spring.
- To RIVER AGAIN, - - - 6½  
A short distance from this point is what is  
called Long Lake. A little timber here. Most of  
the road is heavy and sandy.
- To FORKS OF THE OLD AND NEW PAWNEE VILLAGES. 6  
Old Pawnee village. Here is plenty of timber, but the  
Here take you right-hand road, which leads to the  
banks being high, you will find some difficulty in  
getting water.
- To LOUP FORK AND LAKE, - - - 5½  
" LOOKING-GLASS CREEK, - - - 9½  
This stream not bad to ford.
- To BEAVER RIVER, - - - 8½  
This stream is nearly two rods wide. There are  
two places to ford, not very bad.
- To PLUMB CREEK, - - - 6½  
This is a small stream. Late in the season it is



dry. The camping is not very good, being near the Pawnee corn fields, where the grass is eaten up.

To ASH CREEK,

This stream is nearly one rod wide. Not a very good place to camp.

To THE FORD OF LOUP FORK,

The upper ford is the best. It is about fifty-five rods wide.

To THE OLD PAWNEE VILLAGE,

This village was formerly occupied by the Grand Pawnee and Tappias bands, but was burned by the Sioux Indians, in the year 1846.

To CEDAR CREEK,

This stream is near eight rods wide and two feet deep. You now have plenty of wood, water and grass.

To THE NEW PAWNEE VILLAGE,

This stands on the bank of the Loup fork, but has been mostly destroyed.

To A SMALL CREEK,

This stream is less than one rod wide.

To THE UPPER FORD OF THE LOUP FORK,

This stream is about three feet deep, and is somewhat difficult to cross, on account of deep holes. You follow down a sand-bar about half a mile in the stream before rising the bank. Such streams should be examined on horseback before fording. In about 5 miles you strike the bluffs. After ascending them you will have a heavy, sandy road nearly 6 miles.

To PRAIRIE CREEK,

The banks are somewhat muddy. No wood for some miles.

To DRY CREEK,

" PLATT RIVER,

The road here is about 2 miles from the river.

To WOOD CREEK,

Here is plenty of timber. The stream is about 2 feet wide. The road now runs near the river most of the way.

To A SMALL CREEK, - - - 42½

No timber on this creek.

To A SMALL STREAM, - - - 1¾

Very little wood or good water here.

To DEEP DRY CREEK, - - - 4¼

ELM " - - - 3¼

BUFFALO " - - - 7¼

You follow this creek

To THE FORD, - - - 3

You follow along the river some 20 miles, passing Willow Lake, and 7 miles further Ptah Lake,

To DEEP DRY CREEK, - - - 29

SKUNK " - - - 19

THE FORD, - - - 5

You now pass a number of small lakes to a spring of good water; - - - 6¼

To CANON CREEK, - - - 11

To A LARGE STREAM - - - 10¾

No timber here, nor for nearly 200 miles. Your only chance for fuel will be buffalo chips and drift-wood.

To BLACK MUD CREEK, - - - 3¼

A SMALL " - - - 5½

NORTH BLUFF FORK, - - - 3½

This is a rapid stream. with muddy water and quicksand in the bottom, but not very bad to cross. It is about six rods wide and two feet deep.

To BLUFF CREEK, - - - 11½

A SMALL " - - - 6½

ANOTHER, - - - 2¼

PETITE " - - - 1

PICANINNI " - - - 1¼

To GOOSE CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$\frac{3}{4}$
This stream is about two rods wide.					
To A SMALL CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$1\frac{1}{4}$
" ANOTHER,	-	-	-	-	$1\frac{1}{4}$
" DUCK WEED CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{4}$
" A SMALL "	-	-	-	-	2
" RATTLE SNAKE "	-	-	-	-	$3\frac{3}{4}$

This stream is about two feet wide and one and a half feet deep.

To A SMALL CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$6\frac{1}{2}$
" ANOTHER,	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$
" CROOKED "	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{4}$
" CAMP "	-	-	-	-	4

This is about eight feet wide. Two creeks here only a few rods apart.

To A SMALL CREEK,	-	-	-	-	4
" POND "	-	-	-	-	$\frac{1}{4}$
" WOLF "	-	-	-	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$

About twenty feet wide.

To WATCH CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$4\frac{1}{4}$
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This stream is eight feet wide and two feet deep.

To CASTLE CREEK,	-	-	-	-	10
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This river is six rods wide and two feet deep.

To SAND HILL CREEK,	-	-	-	-	5
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This creek is twelve feet wide. You now cross a number of small streams.

To CRABB CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$20\frac{1}{2}$
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This is about twenty feet wide and not deep. You now travel over a long stretch of road of every variety, but not far from the river. Some attention should be paid to camping-places, which are not very good.

To SPRING CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$60\frac{3}{4}$
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This is ten feet wide and eight inches deep.

To A SMALL CREEK,	-	-	-	-	$17\frac{1}{4}$
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TO RAW HIDE CREEK,	16 $\frac{1}{4}$
" FORT LARAMIE,	13 $\frac{1}{2}$

The whole distance from Council Bluffs to Fort Laramie, 521 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles.

## NO. III.

ROUTE FROM THE JUNCTION OF THE CALIFORNIA AND SALT LAKE ROADS, NEAR THE SOUTH PASS, TO SALT LAKE CITY; AND FROM THENCE TO THE JUNCTION OF THE SAME ROADS AGAIN, NORTH-WEST OF SALT LAKE, NEAR THE GOOSE CREEK MOUNTAINS.

From the junction, 19 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles west of the pass, (left hand road,)

*To Little Sandy,*

7 $\frac{3}{4}$ 

Grass, willows and wild sage along this stream. Barren and sandy.

*To Big Sandy,*

8 $\frac{1}{4}$ 

Quite a stream. A good place to camp. A few miles ahead you will find a short piece of very rough, stony road. No grass, except a little bunch-grass in places; and no water until you reach the

*Big Sandy again,*

17

You have now passed out of Oregon Territory into Utah Territory, formerly Upper California. Good camping on this stream. Very little grass in this region, except narrow skirts along the streams; nearly all the rest of the land consists of dry, barren, sage plains. Sandy and heavy road.

*To Green River,*

10

This is a large stream sixteen rods wide. The best fording-place is nearly two miles above the ferry. Good camping any where along this river. You now follow down this stream to the point where

*The Road leaves the River,*

5

No grass or water after this for  $15\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Road sandy, with several steep places,

*To Black's Fork,*  $15\frac{1}{2}$

Good camping here. Stream six rods wide.

*To Ham's Fork,*  $3\frac{3}{4}$

Stream three rods wide. Good place to camp.

*To Black's Fork again,*  $1\frac{3}{4}$

Some grass and plenty of willows. You will now have some uneven road, over numerous ravines,

*To a small Creek,*  $10\frac{3}{4}$

No grass, and uncertain about water.

*To Black's Fork 3d Time,* 2

A good camping-place on the opposite side of the stream. Plenty of bunch grass, which is very common between the Rocky and Nevada mountains. Some wild flax here. You will find it frequently on the road to Salt Lake, and also beyond.

*To Black's Fork 4th Time,*  $2\frac{1}{4}$

Good camping-place near the ford.

*To a small Stream,*  $2\frac{3}{4}$

Bunch-grass here. Road rough after this.

*To another Stream,*  $3\frac{1}{2}$

You do not cross this stream.

*To Fort Bridger,*  $8\frac{1}{2}$

This is a trading post. You will cross about half a dozen. Swift mountain streams of cold water within half a mile of the fort. After traveling some miles you ascend a long hill, on which you will find some scrubby cedars.

*To some Cold Springs,*  $6\frac{1}{4}$

These springs are on the right of the road.

*To a small Creek,*  $1\frac{1}{4}$

No place to camp. You continue to pass up ascending land

*To the Summit of a high Ridge,*

From here you travel on land tolerably level for several miles, and then descend a long, steep, crooked and difficult hill.

*To Mudly Fork,*

4½

Good place to camp. After this you will find very little good water for 11 miles.

*To Copperas or Soda Spring,*

3¾

This spring is on the left of the road, at the foot of a hill. You now begin to ascend another high ridge.

*To the Summit of the Ridge,*

1¾

Its altitude is 7,315 feet above the sea. The descent from this summit is lengthy, and in some places narrow, rocky and dangerous.

*To another Copperas or Soda Spring,*

1

Cattle will drink this water. Some grass here.

*To a Spring of good Water,*

4½

This spring is at the left of the road. A little further you will find a spring on the right; the last good water for 7 miles. You now pass over the dividing ridge between the waters of the Colorado river and those of the great California Basin. The ascent is steep and crooked. The summit is 7,700 feet above the sea. This is the highest land passed over between the States and Salt Lake. The descent from this summit is steep. After this you will have a crooked road between mountains.

*To Sulphur Creek,*

7

Good place to camp. Not far distant, at the foot of a mountain on the left, is a sulphur spring. A little above is a bed of stone coal. Something over a mile in a south-west direction, is a "Tar" or "Oil" spring. The oil is useful to grease wagons and cure sores on horses, cattle, &c.

*To Bear River,*

1¾

This stream is about six rods wide and two feet deep, and has a swift current. Plenty of timber and grass along the river. You now pass over hills,

*To a Spring of Water,*

2½

This spring is about two rods to the left of the road.

*To Yellow Creek,*

4¾

You soon cross this again and ascend another ridge.

*To the Summit of the Ridge,*

1¾

Descent steep. A spring of good water is situated on the left of the road, about three-quarters of a mile down from the summit.

*To Cache Cave and Head of Echo Creek,*

3¾

The cave is in the bluffs on the right hand, some distance from the road. There are several springs of water above and below the cave, and considerable grass. You pass down a narrow valley between mountains, crossing Echo Creek seventeen times. The crossings are not very bad, but being so frequent are fatiguing to the teams.

*To Red Fork of Weber River,\**

21½

\*There is a new road from this point to Salt Lake city, prepared by Parley P. Pratt, one of the Mormon leaders, upon which toll is charged to all travelers. The old road to the city from this point is 44½ miles; the new one from the same point is 49½ miles, being 5 miles the longest and not much the best. If you take the new road, bear to the left up stream, in a south-east direction,

*To MUD FORK,*

6

This is a tributary of Red fork of Weber river.

*To a FORD OF RED FORK,*

1

You now travel over hills somewhat difficult. Some side-ling places.

*To RED FORK AGAIN,*

3

You now follow up the stream

*To DAVIS FORK,*

6

Take the right hand road down stream,	
To Weber River Ford,	4
Stream four rods wide and two feet deep. Ford not bad. Good place to camp.	
To a small Creek,	3½
Tolerable camping here.	
To another small Creek,	4½
This is on the left of the road. A good place to camp. You will find a much worse road from here to Salt Lake city than you have found since leaving the Missouri river.	
To Canon Creek,	2¾
You have to cross this stream thirteen times, besides crossing two swamps. The road is difficult and dangerous to wagons. You pass up this stream to the point where you	
Leave Canon Creek,	8
Here you turn to the right and begin to ascend a very high mountain.	
To the Summit of the Mountain,	4
<hr/>	
You now follow up the valley	
To POPLAR CREEK,	4
Up Poplar creek, over a very bad road,	
To THE SUMMIT OF THE RIDGE,	3½
You now descend the hill	
To DAVIS CREEK,	2
" THE VALLEY CREEK,	3
High mountains on your left.	
To THE CANON CREEK,	10
" " HEAD OF THE CANON,	1½
You now follow down the Canon over one of the worst roads ever passed with wagons. The mountains rise abruptly on each side several hundred feet. You cross the Canon from one side to the other forty-four times, fording in most instances a small stream of water.	
To SALT LAKE CITY,	9½



Its altitude is 7,245 feet. From this mountain a part of Salt Lake valley can be seen. The descent is steep, lengthy and tedious. You pass over a deep ravine and through a forest of small timber.

*To Brown's Creek and Spring,* 1½

Camping here. Better camping half a mile below.  
*To Cold Spring,* 2¾

This spring is on Brown's Creek, within one rod of the road on the left. Some mury, but camping here and all along for 2 miles.

*Leave Brown's Creek,* 1¾

You now ascend another high mountain. The road is crooked and steep. On both sides of this mountain, (as well as on many of the mountains about Salt Lake valley,) are many service-berry bushes.

*Summit of Last Ridge,* - - - - 1

The descent is steep all the way.

*To Last Creek,* - - - - ¾

You cross this stream nineteen times, some of which are difficult. The road is rough and sideling in places.

*To the Mouth of the Canon,* 5

The road is bad here. You have now reached Salt Lake valley.

*To Salt Lake City,\** 5

From Salt Lake city you travel north along the

\*Salt Lake city contains 1,440 lots of 1½ acres each, laid out in blocks with streets 8 rods wide, and contains about three square miles, or something less than 2,000 acres of land. Many of the lots are yet vacant. The buildings are generally small. A part of them are built with logs; the rest with adobes or sun-dried brick. The population of the city is between five and six thousand, which is nearly one-third of the entire Mormon population of Salt Lake valley.

foot of the mountain range which borders Salt Lake valley on the east. About one and a half miles from the centre of the city, you come to a collection of warm springs near the road, two of which are sulphur springs; the others are salt springs. About 2 miles further you come to a large sulphur spring of hot water, (temperature about 136 degrees,) close to the road. In 7 or 8 miles from the city you reach a large settlement of more than one hundred houses. Here you will find grass. In the dry part of the summer take the left hand or lower road, across a saline marsh near Salt Lake.

*To North Cotton Wood Creek,\** 14

You soon pass three small streams in the space of 3 miles, upon which several families are located. You will find good grass for several miles along here.

*To the Crossing of Weber River,* 21

Several fords across this stream and one toll bridge. About 1½ miles beyond you pass Brownville, containing some sixty houses.

*To Ogden Creek,* 6

Ogden city, situated near this creek, is about as large as Brownville. Several mills on the two last named streams.

*To a Collection of Mineral Springs,* 10

Some are hot, others are cold. The hottest are about 136 degrees. They contain salt, iron, magnesia, &c.

*To Willow Creek,* 5

Good camping here. On your right are mountains 4,000 feet high above the valley.

\*If the lower road is too wet, take the right hand road thro' the settlement nearer the mountains, which is two or three miles farther. This road crosses a great number of small streams running down from the mountains into the valley.

- To Grazing Creek,* 3½  
 Good camping here. Grass all the way between two last streams.
- To Box Elder Creek,* 3  
 Excellent camping here. The last Mormon settlement is located on this stream.
- To a Mountain Stream,* 5  
 Stream small. Some grass here.
- To Another Collection of Mineral Springs,* 5  
 Springs of various temperatures and qualities, numbering thirty or forty and making quite a stream. Some contain oil. In some are large lumps of salt.
- To a Spring of good Water,* - - - - - 5  
 Not much grass.
- To Bear River Ford,* - - - - - 3  
 Not very good grass. Not bad to ford in low water. In high water, cannot be forded. Stream six rods wide. The ferry in high water is kept  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile below.
- To Muddy or Molad Creek,\** 2½  
 Some grass, but no wood on this stream, unless you travel several miles up stream, where you will find wild sage.
- To a Collection of Warm Springs,* 4½  
 Water not very good. These springs are situated at the south end of a hill, about half a mile to the left of the road. About 1½ miles ahead and half a mile to the left of the road, is a spring of good water. You follow up the valley 3 or 4 miles and pass over

\*This is the most miry stream to cross on the route from Salt Lake to California. A new road was made last spring, from Bear river ford up the Molad 10 miles, and crossing the stream at a good ford, descended on the opposite side of the stream, making some 18 miles extra travel. This was preferred to crossing the stream at the usual place.

a wide ridge to another valley.

*To the Blue Springs,*

15

These are a collection of warm mineral springs, some thirty or forty in number. The water in them is somewhat blue and salt. Grass not abundant. You now pass several miles up ascending ground over another ridge to a smaller valley, and travel several miles over hills and vallies.

*To Hensell's Spring,*

13

This spring is half a mile to the left of the road at the foot of a mountain. Your fuel here is cedar. You pass over another ridge to a large valley or plain between mountains. This valley is mostly a sage plain and is some 24 miles across.

*To Deep Creek,*

6

The stream at the ford is shallow, with a hard bottom; but most of the way it is as deep as it is wide. Some grass above the ford.

*To the Sink of Deep Creek,*

6

This stream sinks into the ground in the middle of the plain. Very little grass any where about the sink. After this no grass or good water for 17 miles.

*To Pilot Springs,*

10

Water not good.

*To a Spring of good Water,\**

7

This spring is at the left of the road, on the side of the mountain. Fuel is cedar. You pass around the north side of the mountain. The road hilly and stony.

\*As you pass on from here around the mountains, you have your last view of Salt Lake. The view from this position is beautiful and grand. The blue salt water of the lake is dotted in various places with small islands, mountain-high above the water. The lake, with its islands and the surrounding mountains on the east and south, can all be seen at one view, occupying an area 150 miles long and 75 wide.

*To Oregon or Stony Creek,* 6

Here you strike the first waters flowing into the Columbia river. The road leaves the mountain and bears north-west across a sage plain.

*To Casus Creek,* 9

The stream is also called 'De Casure creek.' Good grass. Fuel, willow and wild sage. Indians often troublesome from here on. You follow up this stream several miles, crossing it three times, and passing up a long hill over a ridge

*To the Junction of the Salt Lake and California Roads,* 7½

These roads come together a little west of the Steeple Rocks.

Whole distance from Salt Lake 167 miles.

#### NO. IV.

CONTAINING THE ROUTE BY WAY OF FORT HALL, FROM THE POINT NEAR BEAR RIVER WHERE IT LEAVES SUBLET'S CUT-OFF, TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE SALT LAKE ROAD A FEW MILES EAST OF THE GOOSE CREEK MOUNTAINS.

Take right hand road around the point of a mountain, (in which is a cave,)

*To some Soda Springs* - - - - 3

" *a Cold Spring of good Water,* - - - - ½

Road good.

*To a small Stream of Water,* - - - - 12½

" " " " - - - - 6

This is a beautiful stream near the head of a pleasant valley. You travel along this valley,

*To another small Stream,* 1

After crossing the stream you travel west, ascending a dividing ridge between the waters of Snake

river and Salt Lake. Hills quite steep. In the descent down this ridge on the west side, you will find a very large cold spring, which is the head of Port Neuf river. One mile beyond the spring you cross a small stream. Some miles ahead you reach another large cold spring, and travel 4 miles down stream, with mountain ranges on your right and left. You soon come in sight of three battes and Fort Hall in the distance. From here you have 7 miles of deep sandy road.

*To a large Spring of Cold Water,* 29

You soon cross three branches of the Port Neuf river. Crossing quite bad.

*To Fort Hall,* 5

From the Fort you travel down Snake river 50 miles. Two miles from the Fort you cross a small stream. You soon reach the Port Neuf river. After crossing, you ascend the bluffs. Roads quite good. Fine springs at short intervals along the bluffs. After passing the bluffs you will find a more level country. You will soon pass the American falls, which are about 40 feet high. Road follows down the river. Many steep ravines.

*To Fall River,* - - - - - 47

" *Leaving Snake River,* - - - - - 3

You now ascend the bluffs in a direction W. S. W. Road hilly

*To Raft River,* - - - - - 8

You now travel up Raft River some 12 miles, crossing it several times. You then leave the river and travel south-west, over ridges and small streams of water,

*To the Junction of Fort Hall and California Roads,* 44

Whole distance, 102 miles.

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF DISTANCES.

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From St. Joseph to Fort Kearney,	-	-	294
" Fort Kearney to Fort Laramie,	-	-	337
" Fort Laramie to South Pass,	-	-	289 $\frac{3}{4}$

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Whole distance from St. Joseph to South Pass, 920 $\frac{3}{4}$

From South Pass to Green River,	-	-	72
" Green River to Bear River,	-	-	64 $\frac{1}{2}$

Here at Bear River you strike the road from  
Fort Bridger to Fort Hall.

From Bear River to Raft River,	-	-	186 $\frac{3}{4}$
" Raft River to Goose Creek,	-	-	54
" Goose Creek to Mary's River,	-	-	107
" Mary's River to the Sink of the same,	-	-	329 $\frac{1}{4}$
" the Sink across the desert to Carson River,	-	-	39 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " Desert up Carson River to the foot of Nevada Mountains,	-	-	84 $\frac{1}{2}$
" the Foot to the Summit of Main Ridge,	-	-	24 $\frac{1}{4}$
" " Summit to Placerville,	-	-	60 $\frac{3}{4}$
" Placerville to Sacramento City,	-	-	50 $\frac{3}{4}$

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Whole distance from South Pass to Sacramento, 1073

" " " St. Joseph " 1993 $\frac{3}{4}$

From St. Louis to Independence,	-	-	280
" Independence to St. Joseph,	-	-	70

From St. Joseph to Council Bluffs,	- -	150
" Council Bluffs to Fort Laramie,	- -	521 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " Salt Lake City,	- -	1031
" the Junction of the Salt Lake and California Roads, by way of Sublet's Cut-Off, to the Junction of the same Roads again near the Goose Creek Mountains,	- -	339 $\frac{3}{4}$
" the Junction of the Salt Lake and California Roads to Salt Lake,	- -	212
" Salt Lake City to the Junction of these roads again near the Goose Creek Mountains,	- - - - -	167
Whole distance from one Junction to the other, by way of Salt Lake,	- - - - -	379
Farther by way of Salt Lake,*	- - - - -	39 $\frac{1}{4}$
The distance from St. Joseph to the South Pass is less than the distance from the Pass to Sacramento City, by	- - - - -	152 $\frac{1}{4}$
From Sacramento City to San Francisco, by land,	- - - - -	90
By water,	- - - - -	130
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From St. Louis to Independence,	- - - - -	280
To Crossing of Big Arkansas,	- - - - -	350
" Bent's Fort,	- - - - -	225
" Sante Fe,	- - - - -	270
" Rio Del Norte at San Philipi,	- - - - -	30
" Albuquerque, crossing Del Norte,	- - - - -	35
" Descending right Bank of Del Norte,	- - - - -	210
" the Copper Mines,	- - - - -	75
" " River Gila,	- - - - -	40

\*The distance to Salt Lake would be increased 5 miles by taking the new road prepared by Parley P. Pratt. And from Salt Lake to the Junction it would be increased about 18 miles by taking the Upper Ford of the Molad Creek.



To the Pimo Village, (Indian,) - - -	500
" Mouth of the Gila, (entering Colorado,) - - -	165
" Crossing Colorado, - - - - -	10
" First Ranch in California, - - - - -	65
" San Diego on the Pacific, - - - - -	45
	<hr/>
Whole distance, - - - - -	2300

## GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

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**KIND OF TEAM.**—Mules and French horses stand the journey very well. Common American horses not so well.

Oxen stand the journey very well, though on the first part of the route they are a little slower than mules or horses. On the last part of the journey they hold out much better than horses. They will make the journey to California within two or three weeks as soon as common horses. Oxen are not so likely to be stolen by the Indians on the way, and are worth more in proportion to their cost, after you get them here.

Four or five yoke will be necessary on each wagon. Many persons bring two or three yoke of cows and two yoke of oxen to a wagon, instead of using oxen for the whole team. The cows work very well and are valuable when you get them here.

Your wagons should not be very heavy, but well made; and should have two good lock chains—one on each side. They should be well covered, so as to shed

the rain completely and keep your things dry, and especially your provisions.

When it can be so arranged, it is a good plan to sleep in your wagons. You will also need a small tent.

Provisions should consist of a variety of such articles of food as will keep well across the plains,—such as flour, corn-meal, (kiln-dried,) hard-bread, crackers of different kinds, side bacon and hams, tea, coffee, sugar, different kinds of dried fruits, beans and rice; to which may be added, some pickles, a little vinegar, and some good butter, well worked and well packed, and stowed in the bottom of the wagon. In this way, it may be kept good at least half the way across.

Various other items may be added as fancy dictates, the whole amount to be not less than 300 pounds to each man; it should be more rather than less. Take a sufficiency of good clothing and warm bedding, as there will be many cool days on the first part of the journey, and the nights are cool all the way. But take no more than you will need on the way.

You should not load down too much with fire-arms, nor should you be found in a defenceless state in an emergency, for the want of them. There should be nearly as many guns as men, and a sufficiency of powder and lead. Some trains foolishly throw away nearly all their guns soon after starting on the plains. The Indians are generally the most troublesome on that part of the route between Bear river and the sink of Mary's river. They are usually far more troublesome in stealing stock than in attacking whites, though they sometimes do the latter.

Along the worst parts of the route companies ought to consist of not less than twenty-five men. That number, by faithful guarding can come safely. In the midst of the emigration a smaller number might get through without trouble.

Many persons on this route drive too hard and break down their teams before they get through. It is much better to take a little more time and bring your animals into California in good condition, than to rush ahead and get in a little sooner by breaking down your team and destroying their value. Many, by such a course, lose their teams, wagons and all. You cannot be too careful of your teams; on their condition depends entirely your success in getting through. You should bear in mind that the poorest feed and the worst roads are found on the last part of the route, where your teams will be much exhausted; and it stands you in hand to bring them to this last trial in as good condition as possible.

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## NEW PASS THROUGH THE NEVADA.

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Anxious to place before the emigrant all the information in our power, we subjoin the following extract from a letter which we find in the New York Tribune of a late date, describing a new pass said to have been discovered through the Sierra Nevada mountains. If true, the discovery will be of great value. We wish it distinctly understood, however, that we do not vouch for the truth of the report. No such pass had been discovered when we crossed the Nevada mountains in July last. It may be all true, or possibly, self interest may have led persons to represent the pass as much

better than it really is, with the design of drawing the California emigration through a particular region, for the benefit of interested individuals. Let no emigrant be induced to try a new route, unless he has such evidences in regard to it as he can *rely upon implicitly*. Tens of thousands have crossed the Nevada mountains safely, through the pass described in this Guide. While on the other hand, several parties that have, in years past, tried new and unexplored routes, after incredible hardships, have saved their lives only by abandoning teams, wagons and all, and making their way on foot over the mountains:

“MORMON STATION, *Carson Valley*, }  
 “*November 25, 1851.* }

“There are three rivers taking their rise in the Sierra Nevada, almost fifty miles apart, running east for more than a hundred miles, and sinking in the immense wastes of land which cover the larger part of the Great American Basin. Northernmost lies the Truckee, which discharge its waters into Pyramid Lake. Fifty miles south of the Truckee, and nearly parallel with it, the Carson makes its way to its sink south of the Humboldt. About the same distance south of Carson river, Walker's river runs in the same direction, and about the same distance. Let the poor but industrious multitudes of our cities and great towns hasten hither and secure a homestead and a competence. Here wealth and avarice have not monopolised, and cannot for years to come monopolise the broad acres and the ample mineral resources which a munificent Nature and a paternal government offer to the indigent of every trade and pursuit as a field for their enterprise and their industry.

“One of the most formidable difficulties settlers here have had formerly to contend with, was the passage of

“the Sierra Nevada, almost impracticable for any kind  
“of transportation in the summer except by pack ani-  
“mals, and wholly impassable in winter from the snow.  
“That difficulty is now obviated. A route has been late-  
“ly discovered which can be passed by all descriptions  
“of carriages, at all seasons of the year. The mountains  
“seem to sink entirely, and a rail road might be con-  
“structed through this pass, with no grades so heavy as  
“several on the Western rail road between Springfield  
“and Boston. It lies north of the Truckee, and will  
“hereafter be *the route* to California. Steps have al-  
“ready been taken to notify emigrants of a fact of so  
“much importance to them. By this route they will  
“obtain excellent grass and water, and avoid everything  
“like a difficult hill.

“From the best information we can obtain here, the  
“emigration next year will be as large, if not larger than  
“any previous year. The atrocities perpetrated by the  
“Indians on the Humbolt will not be repeated. A mil-  
“itary post has already been established at the head of  
“that river, and another will be formed in the spring at  
“its link. Nevertheless, emigrants will do well to adopt  
“all the precautions necessary in passing through an  
“enemy's country; *especially* should they avoid travel-  
“ing down this river in *small* companies. They should  
“follow the old route to within about fifteen miles of the  
“Mormon Station, at which place they leave the Carson  
“for the Truckee. L. DOW.”



